

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 5 of the substitute specification with the following amended paragraph:

--Preferably, the lactic bacteria has optimal growth at a temperature of about 37°C, *i.e.*, the temperature of the mouth. The lactic bacteria may have been genetically modified to have improved adherence to the pellicle of the teeth or to be less acidifying than resident microflora found in the mouth. The lactic bacteria may be genetically modified to have improved adherence to the pellicle of the teeth by insertion of the genes of GenBank Accession number X17390 ~~[[gene]]~~, ~~[[the]]~~ GenBank Accession number X14490 ~~[[gene]]~~, or ~~[[the]]~~ GenBank Accession number X53657 ~~gene (GenBank accession numbers)~~.--

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 14 of the substitute specification with the following amended paragraph:

-- The 5 oral strains, *S. sobrinus* OMZ 176, *S. oralis* OMZ 607, *A. naeslundii* OMZ 745, *V. dispar* OMZ 493 and *F. nucleatum* OMZ 596 were obtained from the Institute für Orale Mikrobiologie und Allgemeine Immunologie, University of Zürich and were cultured in FUM medium ("Fluid Universal Medium," *see, e.g., R. Gmür and B. Guggenheim, "Antigenic Heterogeneity of *Bacteroides intermedius* as Recognized by Monoclonal Antibodies*," Infect. Immun. 42, 459-470 (1983)) in anaerobiosis (GasPackSystem, BBL) at 37°C.--